

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed October 13, 2009, has been received and reviewed. Each of claims 1-5 and 7-11 stands rejected. Claims 1 and 8-11 have been canceled. Claim 46 has been added. Claims 2-5 and 7 have been amended herein. Care has been exercised to introduce no new subject matter. Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for pointing out allowable subject matter in new independent claim 46.

Rejections based on 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 1-5 and 7-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the claimed invention is ostensibly directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 1 and 8-11 have been canceled, rendering rejection of the claims moot. Applicants respectfully submit that new independent claim 46 comprises statutory subject matter. Further, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-5, and 7 depend from independent claim 46 and, as such, are patentable for at least the reasons discussed below.

Rejections based on 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-5 and 7-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102, because they were ostensibly anticipated by Johnson (U.S. Patent No. 5,664,109, hereinafter "Johnson"). Claims 1 and 8-11 have been canceled, rendering rejection of the claims moot. Further, new independent claim 46 is patentable over Johnson. In particular, independent claim 46 provides a method to automatically generate a data structure comprising possible joins on an existing data table. As

such, when new data is entered, data is entered into the corresponding data table. Further, the metadata structure is also automatically populated in anticipation of any future joins. As noted by the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter, this compilation of features is not taught in Johnson.

As such, independent claim 46 is patentable over Johnson. Further, dependent claims 2-5 and 7 have been amended to depend from independent claim 46. As such, dependent claims 2-5 and 7 are patentable over Johnson for at least reasons given above. Accordingly, claims 2-5, 7, and 46 are patentable over Johnson.

CONCLUSION

For at least the reasons stated above, claims 2-5, 7, and 46 are now in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the pending rejections and allowance of the claims. If any issues remain that would prevent issuance of this application, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned – 816-474-6550 or kadsmith@shb.com (such communication via email is herein expressly granted) – to resolve the same. It is believed that no fee is due, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any amount required to Deposit Account No. 19-2112.

Respectfully submitted,

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